

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE CAREER OF THE HERALD-CITIZEN'S BILL SHUSTER

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bill Shuster, publisher of the Cookeville, Tennessee Herald-Citizen, upon the occasion of his retirement after 38 years with the newspaper.

Bill began his newspaper career as a journeyman printer in Nashville, and from there, became the pressman for the Putnam County Herald and the Cookeville Citizen. In 1970, he was named production manager of the two papers the same year they merged to become the Herald-Citizen. Bill became the newspaper's publisher in 1995.

I imagine that, in addition to witnessing the phenomenal growth of Cookeville during his tenure at the newspaper, Bill worked through many changes in technology to get the Herald-Citizen in the racks. Newspaper pages that were literally put together by staff hands are now put together on computer screens. Bill always made sure the Herald-Citizen was cutting edge—designing, building and moving into the plant on Neal Street; implementing computer software and hardware updates; and creating new sections of the newspaper.

While time has brought many changes, one thing that has remained constant is Bill's commitment to a fair story. I could not sum up Bill's work ethic any better than he did when he said, "Early on, I learned that hard work would bring rewards, how to treat people, how to set my moral compass, and that the best course is to put aside personal preferences and go straight to the side of public good."

I know Bill has always been concerned about his community and takes great pride in our Nation. I was always happy, when needed, to provide a flag for the Herald-Citizen facility, where I had the pleasure to celebrate its grand opening with Bill.

Bill, congratulations, again, on your retirement. I hope you enjoy many lazy days of fishing; many games of golf; traveling with your wife, Jan; and the opportunity to spend more time with your grandson, Eli.

RECOGNIZING MATTHEW DONALD MARSH FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Matthew Donald Marsh, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Matthew has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the years Matthew has been involved with scouting, he has earned 34 merit badges and held numerous leadership positions, serving as Chaplains' Aide, Assistant Patrol Leader twice and Patrol Leader twice. Matthew has earned the 100 Night Camper Award and became a Runner in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say.

Matthew used his organizational and leadership skills to lead a group of boys and adults in restoring the trail erosion barriers at the Camp Fire Boys and Girls Camp Shawnee. He is currently a senior at the University of Missouri—Rolla where he is a student of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Matthew Donald Marsh for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

COMMENDING EVAN APPLEMAN AND JAMES KENNEDY AND OTHER HONOREES IN THE 2007 PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARDS PROGRAM

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight to congratulate two outstanding young Hoosiers, Evan Appleman and James Kennedy, for being named Indiana's top honorees in the 2007 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program; an honor conferred on only one high school student and one middle-level student in each State annual.

Evan Appleman, 18, of Indianapolis, is a senior at Lawrence North High School. Inspired by one of his teachers who once told him that "... the greatest problem people have is that they don't understand each other, not out of spite, but often out of ignorance," Evan took it upon himself to produce a series of bilingual television programs for a local cable TV channel as a way to promote greater understanding of the growing Hispanic community in Indianapolis; and to "bridge the gap" between the city's Hispanic and non-Hispanic cultures. The community's reaction has been overwhelmingly positive with many people even commenting that they previously "had no idea so much was going on in the community."

James Kennedy, 12, also of Indianapolis, is a sixth-grader at Creekside Middle School. Born with cerebral palsy, James became involved through his own doctor, Dr. Chuck Dietzen, with the Timmy Foundation; an organization which supports health and education initiatives in developing countries. James' work with the Foundation inspired him to do more than just raise money for a worthy cause. He began speaking at schools and other places about the importance of focusing on what peo-

ple can do, not what they can't do; about what it's like to have a disability; and about the important work being done by the Timmy Foundation. In addition, James agreed to serve as a "volunteer patient" to help students at the University of Indianapolis learn more about cerebral palsy. I think James myself summed up best why he does what he does. He said, "I feel what I do is important because it helps people understand that even though I wear braces on my legs and use a walker at school, I am just like any other kid with the same feelings and dreams."

I applaud Mr. Appleman and Mr. Kennedy for their willingness to get involved and make their communities better places to live, and for the positive impact I know they have had on the lives of others, both young and old. I also commend the other young people from Indiana who were named Distinguished Finalists for their outstanding volunteer service. They are Sarah Boesing, 17, of New Albany; Kacie Giles, 18, of Lebanon; Savannah Holderman, 17, of Mishawaka; Alison Mansfield, 12, of Fort Wayne; Brittany Oliver, 17, of Lafayette; and, Cory Sprunger, 18, of Berne.

Madam Speaker, the Prudential Spirit of Community Award, was originally created by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals in 1995 to impress upon all youth volunteers that their contributions to their communities are critically important and highly valued, and to inspire other young people to follow their example. I believe that young volunteers, like Evan and James, Sarah, Kacie, Savannah, Alison, Brittany and Cory truly embody what the Spirit of Community Award is all about. Their actions show that young Americans can—and do—play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future. I am proud to represent them in the U.S. House of Representatives, and I look forward to seeing what they accomplish in the future.

I ask my colleagues to join me now in recognizing and honoring all of these outstanding young women and men.

IN HONOR OF THE OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVICE OF DEBRA E. FERRONI AND ROBERT CRISS

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend two outstanding public servants who have dedicated themselves to the people of the State of New Jersey through their work with the New Jersey State Law Enforcement Officers Association.

Debbie Ferroni has been working with the Association since 1989 as its Executive Administrator. Jerry Leavy, the Association's President, says that he's not embarrassed to

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

say that though he is the President, it's Debbie that does all the work. In 1994, Debbie was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. Several times during her battle with this debilitating disease, Debbie has had to be hospitalized or homebound. Each time, she has demanded her work be brought to her home and she always showed more concern for the men and women the Association serves than for her own health.

Robert Criss has been a part of the Association since 1991. He retired as a Captain from the Highland Park Police Department in 1999. His first-hand knowledge of the needs of the law enforcement officers the Association serves has made him an invaluable volunteer. And, by all accounts, Bob Criss volunteers "excessive amounts of time" to this work, perhaps most importantly as the Chair of the Youth and Child Identification program.

The New Jersey State Law Enforcement Officers Association will be seventy years old next year. Its members serve the people of New Jersey as Federal, State, county, and municipal law enforcement officers, special police, and auxiliaries. It is the outstanding commitment of people like Debbie Ferroni and Bob Criss that allows the Association to serve these brave officers so well.

As it does each year, this past weekend, the Association honored several of its members for their valor and bravery in the line of duty. I join the Association in the pride they show for these officers and I am proud to honor Debbie and Bob for their sense of duty as well.

RECOGNIZING LOGAN JAMES REED
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF
EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Logan James Reed, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Logan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the years Logan has been involved with scouting, he has earned 31 merit badges and held numerous leadership positions, serving as Assistant Patrol Leader and Patrol Leader. Logan has earned the Master Camper Award and became a warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say.

Logan used his leadership skills to lead a group of boys and adults in constructing two pre-fabricated water fountains and benches with a concrete pad that is handicap accessible on the walking trail in Kearney. He is a member of the Northern Hills Baptist Church and attends the Excelsior Springs Area Career Center for the HVAC program.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Logan James Reed for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE
HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE
HONORABLE JUANITA MILLEN-
DER-MCDONALD, MEMBER OF
CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF
CALIFORNIA

SPEECH OF

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 23, 2007

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD. She was my colleague and, more importantly, she was my friend.

JUANITA and I served together in the California State Assembly and later in Congress. Each week we shared a flight back and forth from Southern California and we grew to be very good friends.

In Congress, we partnered on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to address the unique and pressing transportation needs of Southern California. We joined together to bring a national focus to the importance of Southern California's goods movement, highway financing, and transit needs. As conferees for the SAFETEA-LU Act, together we worked hard to bring historic levels of Federal transportation funding back to the Southern California region.

I am saddened by the loss of a great public servant and colleague that fought for the needs of her constituents and the Southern California region with grace, dedication, and honor.

I am also saddened by the loss of a dear personal friend.

JUANITA was a kind and gentle soul who was called home far too soon. Her wisdom and leadership in Congress will be sorely missed. I join my colleagues in praying that she is in a better place and that her family is able to find peace in knowing the tremendous contributions she made to her State and Nation during her years of public service.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MARKETS
TAX CREDIT BILL

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I rise to offer legislation to extend the New Markets Tax Credit program for an additional five years. I am pleased to be joined by Rep. RON LEWIS in offering this bill, along with several other cosponsors.

The New Markets Tax Credit program has proved to be a remarkably successful way to revitalize communities. Current authority for the program, however, is due to expire at the end of next year. It is important that we extend this credit soon and that we provide for a long-term extension.

The credit was first enacted in 2000 as part of the Community Renewal Tax Relief Act. From enactment through fiscal year 2005, the New Markets Tax Credit has generated financing for the construction or rehabilitation of over 43 million square feet of real estate, and has helped to create or retain 72,000 construction

jobs and 20,000 full time equivalent jobs in low-income community businesses.

The credit stimulates investment and economic growth in low-income urban neighborhoods and rural communities. Investors receive over seven years a 39 percent Federal tax credit for Qualified Equity Investments, with a 5 percent credit during the first three years and 6 percent during the next four years. These investments are made through vehicles known as Community Development Entities (CDEs), which raises capital from the tax credits and then makes loans to or investments in worthy businesses and projects in low-income areas. These CDEs must be domestic corporations or partnerships with a primary mission of providing investment capital to low-income persons or communities, must provide accountability to the communities or residents, and must be certified by the Treasury Secretary as an eligible entity.

Eligible communities, which include both metropolitan and rural areas, are low-income communities with a high poverty rate or low median family income. In the 2006 extension of this credit, the Treasury Secretary was directed to prescribe regulations ensuring that there was a balance in allocations between metropolitan and nonmetropolitan counties. Further, the Treasury Secretary may also designate targeted populations as low-income communities if certain individuals or an identifiable group of individuals, including an Indian tribe, are low-income persons or lack adequate access to loans or equity investments. Some have recently argued that service-connected disabled veterans are such a group and I encourage the Treasury Secretary to look into this reasonable suggestion.

Finally, the law requires that businesses, in order to be eligible for such investments, show that at least half of the total gross income of the business is derived from active operations in a low-income community, and that a substantial portion of the business property and the services performed by the employees are located in a low-income community.

I believe that all of these rules ensure that the credit is appropriately targeted. A recent GAO report found that the program is very effective at increasing investment in low-income communities. To date, New Markets Tax Credit investments in low-income communities total over \$7.7 billion. The tax credit has been used to support a wide variety of community and economic development initiatives including, among others, the financing of charter schools, health care facilities, manufacturing businesses, grocery-anchored retail centers, and numerous other commercial and mixed-use real estate projects.

Now, despite this explanation, some of my colleagues may be wondering how these credits really work. Let me detail one local success story from my Congressional district, and encourage my colleagues to look into projects in their districts as well. Hot Mama's Foods is a Massachusetts-based food company, specializing in salsas, pestos, and other spreads. Recently, the company was able to secure a loan from the Massachusetts Development Finance Agency, a CDE, along with other financing in order to relocate to a USDA-certified food production facility in Springfield, which is in my district. That relocation and expansion meant the company could add an additional 10 jobs to its 50-person workforce and revitalize a neighborhood.

These tax credits work. They help businesses expand and add valuable jobs. The credits need to be extended. I urge my colleagues to join us in sponsoring the New Markets Tax Credit Extension Act of 2007.

RECOGNIZING GRANT RICHARD SAMPSON FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Grant Richard Sampson, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Grant has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the years Grant has been involved with scouting, he has earned 31 merit badges and held numerous leadership positions, serving as Librarian, Troop Guide, Assistant Patrol Leader, and Historian.

For his eagle project, Grant assisted in building two full-size soccer goals for a playground at Line Creek Elementary School. He earned the Arrow of Light and Order of the Arrow awards, and is a Foxman in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Grant Richard Sampson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING THE OSWEGO STATE MEN'S HOCKEY TEAM UPON WINNING THE 2007 DIVISION III NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. McHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the State University of New York at Oswego (Oswego State) Lakers upon winning the 2007 NCAA Division III Men's Ice Hockey National Championship, the first national championship ever won by Oswego State in a team sport.

On March 18, 2007, Oswego State, which is located in my Congressional District, won the Division III National Championship when it defeated the Middlebury Panthers by a score of 4 to 3 at Wessman Arena in Superior, Wisconsin. In that game, Ryan Scott, the Lakers' East Region Second Team All American goalie, set a Division III championship game record with 47 saves and Garren Reisweber scored two goals, including the game-winning goal 12:55 into overtime. Other Lakers who recorded points in the championship game were Trevor Gilligan, Ryan Koresky, Derrell Levy, Mark Lozzi, Brendan McLaughlin, and Peter Magagna.

The Lakers team also included coaches Ed Gosek, Pete Sears, and Glenn Sisman as well

as the following players: Tony DiNunzio, Brad Dormiedy, Ryan Ellis, Francois Gagnon, Chris Hyk, Jeffrey Johnstone, Tyler Laws, Tyler Lyon, Kyle McCutcheon, Neil Musselwhite, Mike Novak, Ryan Scott, C.J. Thompson, Rick Varone, Matt Whitehead, Matt Wolf, Ryan Woodward, and Rich Zalewski.

The Lakers completed the 2007 season with a record of 23–3–3. Moreover, their coach, Ed Gosek, an Oswego native and former Lakers player, was named the 2007 Men's Division III Ice Hockey Coach of the Year. Mr. Speaker, it takes a tremendous amount of dedication, hard work, perseverance, and teamwork to win a national championship. Accordingly, I now ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the entire Lakers hockey team for its very significant accomplishment.

MR. PAUL HAYS—THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES READING CLERK

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the service to the House of Representatives of our reading clerk Paul Hays, who after 19 years in that position and 41 years as an employee of this House has announced that he will retire—effective Monday, April 30—and begin a new phase of his life.

The fact is, Madam Speaker, Paul Hays—with his deep, crisp, commanding voice—is perhaps more recognizable to regular viewers of C-SPAN than many of the Members of Congress who are privileged to serve here.

Since 1789, the House has employed reading clerks, who are responsible for reading aloud the text of bills, amendments, motions, messages, special rules and other privileged resolutions, and veto messages.

Our reading clerks almost always have been appointed from the ranks of existing House employees who have extensive prior floor experience.

And, Paul—a graduate of Georgetown University—is no exception.

In fact, Paul was appointed reading clerk in 1988 by my very good friend and a great public servant, the former Republican minority leader Robert Michel of Illinois.

It is no coincidence, Mr. Speaker, that—given his speaking talents—Paul intends to do voice-over work in the future.

Paul, we thank you for your service and wish you well in the future.

SOWING THE SEEDS THROUGH SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING RESEARCH ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 363) to authorize appropriations for basic research and re-

search infrastructure in science and engineering, and for support of graduate fellowships, and for other purposes:

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Chairman, I submit the accompanying exchange of letters regarding H.R. 363.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE,
Washington, DC, April 27, 2007.

Hon. BART GORDON,
Chairman, Committee on Science and Technology,
Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I write regarding H.R. 363, which authorizes appropriations for basic research and research infrastructure in science and engineering, and for support of graduate fellowships, and for other purposes. I am concerned that certain provisions of the bill as reported may be broad enough to include applicability with respect to biomedical and behavioral research conducted or supported by the National Institutes of Health or other agencies of the Public Health Service. As you know, those matters are within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

I support passage of the bill based on my understanding that you have agreed that the inaction of the Committee with respect to the bill does not in any way serve as a jurisdictional precedent as to our two committees.

Further, as to any conference on the bill, the Committee on Energy and Commerce reserves the right to seek the appointment of conferees for consideration of any portions of the bill that are within the Committee's jurisdiction. It is my understanding that you have agreed to support a request by the Committee with respect to serving as conferees on the bill (or similar legislation).

I request that you send me a letter confirming our agreements as to jurisdiction, including with respect to conferees, and that our exchange of letters be included in the Congressional Record as part of the consideration of the bill.

I look forward to working with you on this important legislation. If you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

JOHN D. DINGELL,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY,
Washington, DC, April 26, 2007.

Hon. JOHN D. DINGELL,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce,
Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding the consideration of H.R. 363, the "Sowing the Seeds Through Science and Engineering Research Act." I appreciate your support of this important legislation.

I recognize your Committee's jurisdictional interest in this area as it pertains to the National Institute of Health and other agencies of the Public Health Service. I agree that the inaction of the Committee on Energy and Commerce with respect to the bill does not in any way serve as a jurisdictional precedent as to our two committees, and I will support any request you may make to have conferees on those portions of H.R. 363, or similar legislation, that implicate the Public Health Service. The exchange of letters between our two committees will be placed in the Congressional Record.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

BART GORDON,
Chairman.

GREATER MARYVILLE CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to congratulate the Greater Maryville Chamber of Commerce on their Centennial Anniversary. On April 23, 1907, the chamber was created when area businessmen came together to improve the economic vitality by promoting businesses and community and enhancing the quality of life in Maryville, Missouri.

The mission of the Greater Maryville Chamber of Commerce is to support advancing agriculture, education, industry, legislation, retail, professional services, recreation, and tourism of the City of Maryville and its surrounding area.

The City of Maryville, organized on February 14, 1845, has become the commercial, educational and entertainment center for the region by hosting such events as fairs, auto shows, and rodeos.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent the Greater Maryville Chamber of Commerce and congratulate them on 100 years of service and I look forward to future celebrations.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MARKETS
TAX CREDIT BILL

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleague Congressman NEAL in introducing legislation to extend New Markets Tax Credit program for an additional five years through 2013.

Originally authorized in 2000 as part of the bi-partisan Community Renewal Tax Relief Act, the New Markets Tax Credit has been successful in meeting its principal goal—namely, mobilizing capital to economically distressed urban and rural communities.

Reports from the U.S. Department of the Treasury, reveals that interest in the NMTC from the investor market continues to increase at a rapid pace. More than \$7.7 billion in new private capital has already been raised from 560 distinct investors. A recent report released by GAO indicates that 88% of investors in New Markets Tax Credit projects would not have made the same investment without the Credit.

In addition to stimulating private investment, the credit is creating jobs and financing business development in low-income communities across the United States. In my home state of Kentucky, the credit has been very active. Seven Kentucky-based community development entities (CDEs) have received credit allocations totaling \$153.5 million since 2003. One of these CDEs, Kentucky Highlands Invest-

ment Corporation, is using its \$22 million allocation to invest in health-related businesses and health care facilities in rural Kentucky. Community Ventures Corporation, also secured \$24 million in credits to invest in new and expanding businesses throughout the Commonwealth. These projects have the potential to create new jobs. To date, Community Ventures Corporation has used its credits to raise \$24 million in investment that has been deployed in businesses throughout the state and it has a pipeline of qualified businesses seeking more than \$121 million in NMTC financing that will have to wait until they can secure additional credits.

I believe the NMTC is a successful program because it brings diverse groups together—public and private sectors, investment banks and community development corporations—to attract private capital and jobs into some of the nation's most impoverished areas.

The NMTC has been successful because of the emphasis it places on community involvement. Private sector investment flows through entities like Kentucky Highlands Investment Corporation and Community Ventures Corporation that are extremely knowledgeable about the communities they serve and are experienced in providing the types of patient, flexible capital which conventional lenders and investors are unable to provide directly in that market.

The NMTC continues to be a catalyst for small business development. It has fostered start-ups, technology firms, manufacturers, neighborhood retail stores, and shopping centers in low-income communities. These investments in turn have created many jobs.

In addition, the NMTC has been used to finance vital community facilities that are often lacking in poor communities—charter schools, community health centers, biotechnology campuses, employment training centers, day care facilities, as well as mixed-use commercial and housing developments. These facilities are essential to help qualified communities grow and thrive.

I am a strong believer in the potential of the New Markets Tax Credit to bring capital to communities that have traditionally been left behind. I was pleased to be one of the leaders of the campaign to extend the Credit in 109th Congress and am proud of our accomplishments during that period of time. I continue to believe that Congress should extend the New Markets Tax Credit for several years, or provide a permanent authorization. Investors, CDE's and businesses need greater certainty in planning and implementing revitalization strategies in economically distressed urban and rural communities.

For this reason, I believe this legislation takes the correct course by authorizing this program for 5 years. I urge my colleagues to join us in co-sponsoring the New Markets Tax Credit Extension Act of 2007.

WILD FREE-ROAMING HORSES AND
BURROS SALE AND SLAUGHTER
PROHIBITION

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2007

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 249, to ban the com-

mercial sale and slaughter of wild free-roaming horses and burros.

At the beginning of the 20th century, there were an estimated 2 million wild horses and burros, but by the 1950s there were only 20,000. Today, the number of horses has increased to 32,000. The population is mainly controlled through adoption. Since 1972, almost 217,000 horses have been adopted.

This is mostly due to the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971, which has sought to preserve wild horses and burros on federal lands and has made the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) responsible for their preservation.

In 2004, the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act was amended to reverse the longstanding policy that protected wild horses from being shipped off to slaughterhouses. It also removed the criminal penalties that are imposed for such actions. Seeking to correct this injustice is H.R. 249, which would once again place a prohibition on the commercial sale and slaughter of wild horses and burros.

As a compassionate society, we have an obligation to protect all animals. Some scientists have found that America's wild horses have greater genetic diversity, as compared to their domestic counterparts, due to little inbreeding.

Sadly, this bill is too late to save some horses. There have been several cases of horses that were purchased for seemingly innocuous reasons and then sent immediately to slaughter. H.R. 249 would protect the more than 8,400 horses that are in jeopardy of being slaughtered.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to pass H.R. 249, which would restore the prohibition on the commercial sale and slaughter of wild free-roaming horses and burros.

RECOGNIZING MAXWELL "MAX"
WILLIAM ELDON PEPPER FOR
ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE
SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Maxwell "Max" William Eldon Pepper, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Maxwell has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the years Maxwell has been involved with scouting, he has earned 28 merit badges and held numerous leadership positions, serving as Librarian, Assistant Patrol Leader, and Quartermaster. Maxwell is an Ordeal Member in the Order of the Arrow and a Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Maxwell "Max" William Eldon Pepper for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE
"LEAD-FREE DRINKING WATER
ACT OF 2007"

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. NORTON. Madam Speaker, Oversight and Government Reform Committee Chairman Henry A. Waxman and I re-introduce the "Lead-Free Drinking Water Act of 2007". This bill today was virtually summoned by the District's lead water crisis in 2004. The national attention our crisis generated for the likely presence of lead in the water supply drew many jurisdictions to do their own investigations, uncovering similar problems. When former Senator James Jeffords, Representative Waxman, and I looked at the 1974 Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and the Lead and Copper Rule, it was clear that even the revision of the Rule in 1991 did not meet standards that should have been adopted at that time. Our bill incorporates what we learned from hearings on the D.C. water crisis and from the state of the current science.

This bill is necessary because at a recent hearing for the Subcommittee on Water Resources, Benjamin H. Grumbles, Assistant Administrator for Water in the EPA, promised that new rules on lead and copper in water would be promulgated at the level mandated in this legislation. However, details of the rule have not been shared with the subcommittee, and the rule is not scheduled to be released until the fall of this year. We have heard this same excuse since 2004, illustrating the continuing need for Congress to act. In 2006, as confidence was slowly being restored in our drinking water, the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority was cited for violations of SDWA consent order due to a failure in testing procedures. Most especially, recent reports have documented elevated levels of lead in drinking water in five District of Columbia public school water fountains, even though the children are most vulnerable to lead, thus the important reasons for this legislation remain strong after three years. This bill directly addresses the concerns that also vulnerable are pregnant and nursing women and District of Columbia parents have with lead in the water at schools and would lay to rest well-placed anxiety about lead in the drinking water here and nationwide.

The District of Columbia provided us with a virtual case study in why SDWA must be revised again in 2007. Here are some of the most important provisions taken from the D.C. experience:

(1) *Valid Testing.* This bill eliminates the giant loophole that allowed the D.C. Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) to continue testing once it exceeded the 15 parts per billion (Ppb) action level, in order to dilute its findings, reduce the percentage of homes to less than 10%, and thus relieve WASA of the requirement to replace lead service lines. Instead, 10% of lead pipes must be replaced until all are eliminated.

(2) *Total Lead Service Line Replacement.* Instead of replacing only publicly owned lead

service lines, this bill requires total replacement, including the portion owned by the homeowner. Our hearings showed that partial replacement can actually increase the amount of lead in drinking water, because the new metal, such as brass or copper, can interact with the remaining lead pipe and accelerate lead leaching into the drinking water.

(3) *Individual Notice From Detection to Correction.* Instead of allowing public notices to be delayed or buried, using generic language deep in a brochure or water bill, as WASA did, our bill requires notice to all customers, individually within 30 days of lead exceedance, stating the scope of testing, results and corrective actions.

(4) *Alternative Water Supply.* Where excessive lead is found, the bill requires that certified water filters be provided to each residence, school and day care facility, a measure that was delayed in the District despite the danger to pregnant women and children under six.

(5) *Testing Water Treatment Chemicals.* The Army Corp of Engineers switched chemicals at the Washington Aqueduct from chlorine to chloramines without conducting a corrosion control test. The evidence is that the new chemical was the likely cause of the spike in lead levels here, but only now are phosphates being tested to counter lead corrosion in the water supply. This bill requires water systems to have corrosion control plans within one year of switching chemical treatment or a finding of excessive lead in the water.

(6) *Lead Free Plumbing.* "Lead free" in this bill is defined as 0.2%, the standard already used in Los Angeles, down from the current 8%. We heard testimony at our hearings that most brass and copper plumbing contains 8% lead.

(7) *Lead Testing In Schools.* This bill requires the repair or replacement of school water coolers found to have excessive lead. Annual testing of water coolers in schools is also required.

The District of Columbia experience has opened the nation's eyes to lead in the water that millions of Americans may be drinking. Our bill will reduce the well-earned fears of residents here and across the country.

**TORTURE VICTIMS RELIEF
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007**

SPEECH OF

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2007

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1678, the Torture Victims Relief Reauthorization Act of 2007, legislation which provides grants for medical centers that administer therapeutic treatment for victims of torture.

Currently, there are approximately 400,000 victims of torture who reside in the United States, all of whom live with painful memories of their trauma. America's torture treatment centers provide crucial recuperative services to these individuals who have suffered both physically and mentally, often while serving our country.

Victims of torture are in a unique position, requiring ongoing psychiatric counseling as well as physical therapy. These individuals carry the scars of their torture on their bodies and minds, and require years of support to overcome these wounds.

In my district and home-town of Chicago, the Marjorie Kovler Center for the Treatment of Survivors of Torture provides comprehensive, community-based services in which survivors of governmental or political torture work together with specialists to identify individual needs and overcome barriers to healing. At the Marjorie Kovler Center, patients find a welcoming and accepting environment which nurtures the body and mind, allowing individuals to successfully transition back into healthy social relationships. This crucial organization generously provides all of its services free of charge to its patients, and centers like it across the country utilize the funding provided in this legislation to deliver services and care to countless victims of torture.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to co-sponsor and support H.R. 1678. This legislation bolsters the therapeutic network for torture victims who have suffered tremendously, and are in great need of care. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the organizations that serve the men and women who are living with the mental and physical scars of torture by voting for H.R. 1678, the Torture Victims Relief Reauthorization Act of 2007.

**LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE
BOWL TEAM**

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise to honor 5 outstanding individuals, Stephanie Hull, Shane Daniel, John Ahlfield, David Klco, and Ammon Sarver, who competed in the 2007 National Science Bowl representing Liberty High School. This is Liberty's third year in a row to make it to the National Finals.

Since 1991, the National Science Bowl, through the sponsorship of the United States Department of Energy has brought together high school students to compete in an academic competition in the fields of chemistry, biology, physics, earth science, mathematics, astronomy, and general science.

Also, I want to recognize the great leadership of the team including Coaches Rosemary Camp and Mary Coogan. It is also important to acknowledge the parents, family, mentors and friends who have helped these students succeed in their academic efforts.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating the Liberty High School Science Bowl Team on their achievements and wish them the best of luck in their future academic endeavors. It is an honor to represent this team in the United States Congress.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, May 1, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 2

9:15 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Interstate Commerce, Trade, and Tourism
Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine United States trade relations with China.

SR-253

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for global health.

SD-124

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-366

Finance

To hold hearings to examine the Medicare prescription drug benefit, focusing on monitoring early experiences.

SD-215

Judiciary

Terrorism, Technology and Homeland Security Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine strengthening the security of international travel documents, focusing on interrupting terrorist travel.

SD-226

10:30 a.m.

Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee

To hold closed hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for defense intelligence.

S-407, Capitol

Aging

To hold hearings to examine the Nursing Home Reform Act (Public Law 100-203), focusing on what has been accomplished and what challenges still remain.

SD-628

2:30 p.m.

Armed Services

Strategic Forces Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Department of Energy atomic energy defense programs in review of the Defense Au-

thorization Request for Fiscal Year 2008.

SR-232A

4 p.m.

Appropriations

Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the government of the District of Columbia, focusing on federally-funded entities.

SD-192

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Science, Technology, and Innovation Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the 2006 Nobel Laureates.

SR-253

MAY 3

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the United States Central Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2008 and the Future Years Defense Program, with the possibility of a closed session in S-407 following the open session.

SD-106

10 a.m.

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

SD-192

Finance

To hold hearings to examine offshore tax evasion, focusing on stashing cash overseas.

SD-215

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the internet as a portal to violent Islamist extremism.

SD-342

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 376, to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, S. 221, to amend title 9, United States Code, to provide for greater fairness in the arbitration process relating to livestock and poultry contracts, S. 495, to prevent and mitigate identity theft, to ensure privacy, to provide notice of security breaches, and to enhance criminal penalties, law enforcement assistance, and other protections against security breaches, fraudulent access, and misuse of personally identifiable information, S. 239, to require Federal agencies, and persons engaged in interstate commerce, in possession of data containing sensitive personally identifiable information, to disclose any breach of such information, S. 1202, to require agencies and persons in possession of computerized data containing sensitive personal information, to disclose security breaches where such breach poses a significant risk of identity theft, and the nominations of Debra Ann Livingston, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, Roslynn Renee Mauskopf, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, Richard Sullivan, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New

York, and Joseph S. Van Bokkelen, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Indiana.

SD-226

Appropriations

Legislative Branch Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the Office of the Secretary of the Senate and the Library of Congress.

SD-124

Appropriations

Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SD-138

Energy and Natural Resources

Water and Power Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 27, to authorize the implementation of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement.

SD-366

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 390, to direct the exchange of certain land in Grand, San Juan, and Uintah Counties, Utah, S. 647, to designate certain land in the State of Oregon as wilderness, S. 1139, to establish the National Landscape Conservation System, H.R. 276, to designate the Piedras Blancas Light Station and the surrounding public land as an Outstanding Natural Area to be administered as a part of the National Landscape Conservation System, and for other purposes, H.R. 356, to remove certain restrictions on the Mammoth Community Water District's ability to use certain property acquired by that District from the United States, S. 205, and H.R. 865, bills to grant rights-of-way for electric transmission lines over certain Native allotments in the State of Alaska.

SD-366

Armed Services

SeaPower Subcommittee

To hold closed hearings to examine Navy force structure requirements and programs to meet those requirements in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2008 and the Future Years Defense Program; to be immediately followed by an open session in SR-222.

SR-222

Intelligence

Closed business meeting to consider certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

3 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine pending Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) legislation.

SR-253

9:30 p.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine S. 310, a bill to express the policy of the United States regarding the United States relationship with Native Hawaiians and to provide a process for the recognition by the United States of the Native Hawaiian governing entity.

SR-485

<p>MAY 4</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe To hold hearings to examine Russia, focusing on the reemergence of Russia as a major political and economic power. CHOB311</p>	<p>Veterans' Affairs To hold hearings to examine on benefits legislation. SD-562</p> <p>2:30 p.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation Consumer Affairs, Insurance, and Automotive Safety Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) safety. SR-253</p>	<p>MAY 16</p> <p>10 a.m. Veterans' Affairs To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Michael K. Kussman, of Massachusetts, to be Under Secretary for Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs. SD-562</p>
<p>MAY 7</p> <p>1:30 p.m. Appropriations Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the National Institutes of Health: Frontiers of Science. SD-116</p>	<p>MAY 10</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Energy and Natural Resources To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Joseph Timothy Kelliher, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and R. Lyle Laverty, of Colorado, to be Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife. SD-366</p>	<p>MAY 17</p> <p>10 a.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine rail safety reauthorization. SR-253</p>
<p>MAY 8</p> <p>10 a.m. Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions To hold hearings to examine community integration and recovery, focusing on transforming mental health systems of care. SD-628</p> <p>Judiciary To hold hearings to examine privacy and civil liberties concerns, focusing on the REAL ID Act (Public Law 109-13). SD-226</p>	<p>10 a.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine the effects of climate change and ocean acidification on living marine resources. SR-253</p>	<p>MAY 23</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Veterans' Affairs To hold hearings to examine health legislation. SD-562</p>
<p>MAY 9</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry To hold hearings to examine farm bill policy proposals relating to farm and energy issues and rural development. SR-328A</p>	<p>2 p.m. Judiciary To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Michael J. Sullivan, of Massachusetts, to be Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. SD-226</p>	<p>POSTPONEMENTS</p> <p>MAY 3</p> <p>2:30 p.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Michael E. Baroody, of Virginia, to be Chairman and Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and Charles Darwin Snelling, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority. SR-253</p>